



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
WEST VIRGINIA FIELD OFFICE  
1900 Kanawha Blvd East  
Charleston, West Virginia 25305



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 26, 2020

Revised: November 20, 2020

Contact: Charmaine Wilson

(304) 357-5126

## Organic Farms in West Virginia

**Charleston, West Virginia** – In 2019, West Virginia had 27 certified organic farms, up 9 farms from 2015, and up 3 farms from 24 farms in 2014 (data in 2014 included both certified organic farms and farms exempt from certification). In 2019, 8 farms had sales of \$500,000 or more; 9 farms had sales from \$100,000 to \$499,999. Certified organic acres operated were 3,054.

In 2019, 12 farms had crop production, including nursery and greenhouse, 15 had livestock and poultry, and 7 had livestock and poultry products. Some of the produce and livestock West Virginia organic farms sold included blueberries, blackberries, squash, lettuce, tomatoes, potatoes, peppers, maple syrup, all hay, soybeans, corn for silage, cows, sheep, and broilers.

Some other interesting facts include the following: 10 farms used animal manures, 9 farms planted green manures, 5 farms maintained beneficial insect/vertebrate habitats, 8 farms produced or used organic mulch/compost, 5 farms had direct consumer sales, 8 farms sold through retail markets, institutions, or food hubs, and 7 farms reported market access as a major production challenge.

Data are from the 2019 Certified Organic Survey that is part of the 2017 Census of Agriculture program. Survey data were published from producers that were certified organic and transitioning to organic certification. Detailed organic survey data are available on the NASS website, for more information go to:

[https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/AgCensus/2017/Online\\_Resources/Organics/index.php](https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/AgCensus/2017/Online_Resources/Organics/index.php).

## West Virginia Certified Organic Sales by Product Type<sup>1</sup>

		2014	2015	2019
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse	farms	16	12	12
	dollars	160,000	244,000	286,000
Livestock and poultry	farms	8	4	15
	dollars	298,000	429,000	10,554,000
Livestock and poultry products	farms	3	3	7
	dollars	(D)	3,188,000	2,515,000
Total farms		24	16	27
Total value of products sold in dollars		(D)	3,861,000	13,354,000

<sup>1/</sup> 2014 survey data included published data from farms that were certified organic, exempt from certification, and transitioning to organic certification. (D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual farms.